

CLAIMS

1. A method to respond to a request for a function of a real-world object (13) connected to a control system (30), which function is represented as an Aspect of an Aspect Object (3), characterized in that the method provides the steps of:
 - receiving a web request (25) in a web server (21), which web request (25) is sent by a web presentation means (26) and said web request comprises a Uniform Resource Locator (URL), which URL comprises means to identify the Aspect Object (3) and the Aspect (5) of the Aspect Object,
 - identifying in a software application (27) the Aspect Object (3) and the Aspect by use of information in the URL,
 - querying the identified Aspect Object (3) from the software application (27) for an interface (22a) to an Aspect System Object (12) associated with the Aspect,
 - receiving from the Aspect System Object (12) to the software application (27) a reference to an interface (22a) of the Aspect System Object (12), which implements the function of the identified Aspect,
 - invoking functionality of the Aspect by means of the reference (22a),
 - sending a response message to the world wide web presentation means (26), which response message is adapted to contextual information which describes characteristics of the world wide web presentation means (26), wherein the world wide web presentation means (26) is updated with the result of the performed function of the real-world object (13).

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2. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that the contextual information is comprised in the web request (25) sent from the world wide web presentation means (26).

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3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the step receiving a web request (25) comprises the additional step of:

10 - passing the web request (25) from the web server (21) to the software application (27).

15 4. A method according to any previous claim, characterized in that the response message is adapted according to the contextual information by an Aspect System Object (12).

20 5. A method according to claim 4, characterized in that the response message is adapted as an HTTP response.

25 6. A method according to claim 4, characterized in that the response message is adapted according to extensible markup language (XML).

30 7. A method according to any previous claim, characterized in that the Aspect Object (3) during run-time inherits the Aspect from another Aspect Object through a hierarchical structure, wherein the Aspect Object during run-time inherits the association of the Aspect System Object (12).

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8. A method according to any previous claim, characterized in that the web presentation means is a standard web browser.

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9. A method according to claim 8, characterized in that
the web browser is installed on a wireless device such as
a cell phone Personal Digital Assistant(PDA), a cell
5 phone or a handheld computing device.

10. A method according to any previous claim, wherein the
contextual information of the world wide web presentation
means describes technical characteristics of the world
10 wide web presentation means such as type of web browser,
available plug-ins or screen resolution.

11. A method according to claim 1, characterized in that
the identifying step comprises the additional step of:
15 - evaluating in the software application which function
of the Aspect System Object the software application
should query for a reference based on the contextual
information in addition to the identified Aspect Object,
the Aspect of the Aspect Object.

20 12. A control system comprising a web server, an Aspect
Object, an Aspect System Object and a software applica-
tion, characterized in that the system executes the steps
of the method in claim 1.

25 13. A computer program product which when run on a com-
puter or a processor causes said computer or processor to
carry out one or more steps of a method according to
claim 1.